

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 089161

63

ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 OMB-01 EB-07

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 AID-05 /035 R

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----- 089687

R 181651Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089161

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MASS, RP, SN, KS

SUBJECT: EXPORT BY GROC OF US ORIGIN DEFENSE ITEMS

REFS:(A) CMAAG TAIPEI 140401Z SEPT 74 (NOTAL)

(B) CMAAG TAIPEI 200008Z AUG 74 (NOTAL)

(C) CINCPAC 131306Z SEPT 74 (NOTAL)

(D) CINCPAC 130237Z SEPT 74 (NOTAL)

(E) TAIPEI 6290 (NOTAL)

OINT/STATE DEFENSE MESSAGE

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1. THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN REFERENCES A, B, AND C,

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 089161

HAVE BEEN GIVEN CAREFUL REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION. WE ARE

KEENLY AWARE OF THE IMMEDIATE POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED SALES, BUT DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS APPROVAL OF TWO OF THE THREE PROPOSED SALES NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE USG.

2. WE ARE MOST RELUCTANT TO START A TREND WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE ROC OR ANY OTHER OF OUR AID RECIPIENTS TO BECOME ARMS EXPORTERS OF US ORIGIN DEFENSE ITEMS. IN THE CASE OF ROC, CSF PROPOSAL IN PARA 4, REFTEL E APPEARS TO US TO BE LATEST SALVO IN CAMPAIGN TO EVENTUALLY DEVELOP ARMS EXPORT CAPABILITY. FOR VARIETY OF REASONS WE COULD NOT

WELCOME SUCH A DEVELOPMENT PARTICULARLY WHEN US ORIGIN EQUIPMENT IS INVOLVED. ANY ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE ROC TO BECOME A REGIONAL SUPPLIER OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT WOULD NOT BE IN KEEPING WITH OUR OVERALL CHINA POLICY. THIS LATTER CONSIDERATION MUST OUTWEIGH THE REGIONAL COOPERATION ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED IN RECENT MESSAGE TRAFFIC.

3. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO BE CONSISTENT IN NOT PERMITTING OTHER NATIONS IN THE REGION TO EXPORT US ORIGIN DEFENSE ARTICLES TO THIRD COUNTRIES. IN THE CASE OF THE 105 AND THE 155MM AMMO REQUESTS, THESE ITEMS WERE PRODUCED BY THE ROC ON BASIS OF US TECHNICAL DATA PROVIDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROC SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND WE HAVE SO INFORMED THE CONGRESS. IT CLEARLY WAS NOT THE INTENT OF CONGRESS TO ASSIST ANY OF OUR AID RECIPIENTS IN SETTING UP AN EXPORT INDUSTRY OF US ORIGIN DEFENSE ITEMS.

4. BASED ON THE ABOVE, DEPARTMENT DOES NOT REPEAT NOT APPROVE THE SALE OF THE 105MM OR 155MM BY THE GROC TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES (GOP) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE (GOS) RESPECTIVELY. DEPARTMENT DOES, HOWEVER, APPROVE THE SALE OF THE 20 METRIC TONS OF THE SMALL ARMS POWDER (REF C) BY THE GROC TO THE GOS SINCE US IS NO LONGER PRODUCING THIS COMMODITY.

5. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM GROC THROUGH THE MOST APPROPRIATE CHANNEL OF FOREGOING USG DECISIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 089161

6. FOR CINCPAC: DEPARTMENT AGREES THAT REITERATION OF THE GENERAL POLICY GUIDELINES REGARDING THIRD COUNTRY SALES OF DEFENSE ITEMS IS NEEDED. YOUR SUGGESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN THE PREPARATION OF POLICY GUIDE LINES TO BE DISSEMINATED TO ALL CONCERNED. KISSINGER

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